

releasably received in the receiving slots 52 of the first connector body 12 and in the bayonet openings 80 of the slide mechanism 18.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 11 and 18 to read as follows:

11. (Amended) A connector assembly comprising:

a slide mechanism having an arm with a lock rail and a bayonet slot in the arm;

a first connector body having a mounting slot and a channel for releasably receiving the arm of the slide mechanism;

a second connector body having a mounting tab constructed to be releasably received in the mounting slot of the first connector body to connect the first connector body and second connector body together, and a lock tab which in assembly cooperates with the lock rail and engages the lock rail to prevent separation of the second connector body and first connector body;

a third connector body having a bayonet constructed to be received in the bayonet slot of the slide mechanism so that the third connector body is releasably connected to the first connector body when the arm of the slide mechanism is disposed in the channel of the first connector body;

a receiving slot in the first connector body for releasably receiving the bayonet on the third connector body;

an opening into the bayonet slot wherein the arm of the slide mechanism is slidably movable in the channel to a preliminary position wherein the receiving slot and the opening of the bayonet slot are aligned to receive the bayonet and a final position wherein the opening of the bayonet slot is not aligned with the receiving slot;

a notch and a shoulder on the slide mechanism and a lock arm on the first connector body having a catch engageable with the notch to locate the slide mechanism in its preliminary position, and constructed to engage the shoulder to releasably maintain the slide mechanism in its final lock position;

a lock tab slot in the first connector body for receiving the lock tab on the second connector body such that when the slide mechanism is in its final lock position the lock rail overlies the lock tab to prevent separation of the first connector body and the second connector body; and

wherein the channel extends generally transversely to the lock tab slot so that when the arm is received in the channel, the lock rail on the slide mechanism extends generally transversely to the direction of the lock tab slot in the first connector body such that when the lock tab is fully received in the lock tab slot, movement of the second connector body in a direction tending to remove the lock tab from the lock tab slot causes the lock tab to engage the lock rail to prevent separation of the second connector body from the first connector body.

18. (Amended) A connector assembly comprising:

a first connector body having a channel and a mounting slot;

a second connector body having a lock tab and a mounting tab constructed to be releasably received in the mounting slot of the first connector body to connect the first connector body and second connector body together;

a slide mechanism having an arm constructed to be slideably, releasably received in the channel and a lock rail which in assembly cooperates with the lock tab and engages the lock tab to prevent separation of the second connector body and first connector body;

a notch on the slide mechanism and a lock arm on the first connector body having a catch engageable with the notch to locate the slide mechanism in a preliminary position, and constructed to releasably maintain the slide mechanism in a final lock position;

a lock tab slot in the first connector body for receiving the lock tab on the second connector body such that when the slide mechanism is in its final lock position the lock rail overlies the lock tab to prevent separation of the first connector body and the second connector body; and

wherein the channel extends generally transversely to the lock tab slot so that when the arm is received in the channel, the lock rail on the slide mechanism extends generally transversely to the direction of the lock tab slot in the first connector body such that when the lock tab is fully received in the lock tab slot, movement of the second connector body in a direction tending to remove the lock tab from the lock tab slot causes the lock tab to engage the lock rail to prevent separation of the second connector body from the first connector body.